

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 NEA-10 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 OIC-04 AEC-11

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2607

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INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

ALL NATO CAPITALS 3431

S E C R E T USNATO 5418

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-81

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: NOVEMBER 9 NAC DISCUSSION

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

REF: VIENNA 9285

BEGIN SUMMARY:

COUNCIL ASKED THAT SPC ACCELERATE WORK ON UNRESOLVED MEASURES
RELATED TO REDUCTIONS

END SUMMARY

1. AD HOC GROUP REPS--BEHREND (FRG), ADRIAEASSON (BELGIUM)
AND KORSGAARD-PETERSEN(DENMARK)--MET WITH COUNCIL NOVEMBER 9,
AMBASSADOR BEHREND ACTING AS CHIEF SPOKESMAN. IN LENGTHY AND
DETAILED PRESENTATION, BEHREND REVIEWED ATMOSPHERE IN NEGO-
TIATIONS FOLLOWING OPENING STATEMENTS; DISCUSSED INTERIM PHASE
BETWEEN OPENING STATEMENTS AND THE SUBMISSION OF THE
SOVIET DRAFT PROPOSAL; AND THEN REVIEWED MAIN POINTS IN SOVIET
DRAFT. HE ASKED THAT ALLIES PROTECT CAREFULLY AGAINST LEAKS,
SECRET

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SINCE SOVIETS HAD ASKED FOR CONFIDENTIALITY AND HAVE STATED
THAT THEY DO NOT INTEND TO RELEASE THEIR PROPOSAL TO PRESS.
BEHREND AND ADRIAEASSON STATED THAT AHG CONSIDERED THAT SOVIETS
HAD NOT GAINED INITIATIVE. TO THE CONTRARY, SOVIET PROPOSAL

HAD ALLAYED CONCERNS IN AHG THAT SOVIETS WOULD NOT BE RESPONSIVE.

2. AS FOR ALLIED RESPONSE TO SOVIET DRAFT, BEHREND SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES SHOULD PREPARE FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IF ONLY IN MEMO FORMAT. IF ALLIES WERE NOT IN A POSITION TO TABLE A PROPOSAL, BEHREND SUGGESTED THAT THEY INTRODUCE A SUMMARY OF NATIONAL STATEMENTS MADE TO DATE, AND BE PREPARED TO QUESTION AND CHALLENGE SOVIET DRAFT. AIM WOULD THEN BE TO INTRODUCE ALLIED PROPOSAL LATER AS SUCCESSOR TO AND IMPROVEMENT ON SOVIET DRAFT.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS DUTCH, BELGIAN, AND FRG PERMREPS COUNTERED BEHREND AND ARGUED THAT SOVIETS HAD INDEED SEIZED INITIATIVE AND ALLIES WOULD NEED TO RESPOND PROMPTLY. ON OTHER HAND, UK (PECK) BELIEVED THAT ALLIES SHOULD TAKE THEIR TIME IN CRITIQUING SOVIET PROPOSAL. THEY SHOULD ACCELERATE THEIR OWN WORK AND AIM AT PUTTING FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL ON TABLE BY WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18, INCLUDING PERHAPS A DRAFT ON PRE-REDUCTION MEASURES. FRG REP CAUTIONED THAT ALLIES SHOULD NOT APPEAR TO ALTER THEIR OWN POSITION IN RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROPOSALS.

4. FOLLOWING SEVERAL COMMENTS BY PERMREPS ON PUBLIC RESPONSE TO SOVIET PROPOSAL, BEHREND POINTED OUT THAT AHG HAD ALREADY DEVELOPED CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE. DE STAERCKE SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT THAT COUNCIL BE INFORMED OF THIS PRESS APPROACH, SO THAT "WE CAN ALL SPEAK WITH ONE VOICE." RUMSFELD STATED ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT HE BELIEVED COUNCIL SHOULD NOT RPT NOT DEVOTE TIME TO MBFR TACTICS AND PRESS HANDLING. AHG REPS COULD GET GUIDANCE ON PRESS ASPECTS DIRECTLY FROM THEIR CAPITALS. COUNCIL SHOULD ENSURE THAT WORK IN ALLIANCE PROCEEDS EXPEDITIOUSLY ON UNRESOLVED SUBSTANTIVE MEASURES RELATED TO REDUCTIONS, WHICH ALLIES MAY WISH TO REFERENCE IN A FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL.

5. IN SUMMING UP DISCUSSION, ACTING SYG PANSA CONCLUDED THAT:

--AHG SHOULD DEAL WITH PUBLIC RESPONSE TO SOVIET
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PROPOSAL, AND KEEP COUNCIL INFORMED;

--SPC SHOULD INTENSIFY ITS EXAMINATION OF UNRESOLVED ISSUES IN BASIC POSITION, IN ORDER "FILL IN THE BLANKS" IN ALLIED FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL;

-- ON BASIS OF SPC REPORT INTER ALIA WHICH SHOULD BE PRESENTED TO NAC NOVEMBER 15, COUNCIL COULD REVIEW SITUATION AS OF THAT TIME;

-AHG WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR TACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION.

6. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE TIMETABLE SET BY NAC MESHES WITH SCHEDULING

PROPOSALS OUTLINED IN THE SUMMARY OF REFTEL. IN VIEW OF
CURRENT STATUS IN NATO RE UNRESOLVED ASSOCIATED MEASURES,
IT IS UNLIKELY THAT COUNCIL REPORT WILL ALLOW AHG TO INCREASE
THE SPECIFICITY OF THESE MEASURES MUCH BEYOND WHAT IS SET FORTH IN
PARAS 17 AND 31 D OF REFTEL. HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF KNOWN
ALLIED DESIRES FOR INCREASED SPECIFICITY IN DEFINITION OF
ASSOCIATED MEASURE TO BE PRESENTED TO EAST, IT WOULD BE
HELPFUL TO KNOW EARLY IN WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12 IF TREATMENT OF
THESE MEASURES AS PROPOSED BY VIENNA IS SATISFACTORY. IF WASHINGTON
DESIRES ANY DETAILED PROPOSALS BEYOND WHAT IS SET FORTH IN REFTEL,
WE WILL NEED GUIDANCE, PREFERABLY IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING
NOVEMBER 13.
RUMSFELD

SECRET

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